

TO: ellen.mcdaniel@house.mn.gov

FROM: Marc Olivier

RE: MN House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee Hearings on HF 4300 and HF 601

#### WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HF 4300 AND HF601

HF 4300 is unnecessary and redundant, since there is already a law on the books regarding endangering children (609.378). Children do not visit or enter my home. If protecting children in my home is the rationale for this bill, then it's a total waste of time and effort on your part, as well as an intrusion. Another law (604.01) spells out (financial) liability for harm caused by negligence.

The provision of locking up firearms as cited in the bill is an impediment to acting swiftly when immediate self-defense is required. In effect, this provision puts the State in league with violent criminals by making it harder for targeted victims to defend themselves. This is further corroborated by legislative efforts to REDUCE criminal penalties for felons convicted of crimes with guns, with no active effort at rehabilitation or evaluation of such required.

HF 601 is unnecessary but it is also unfair and intrusive in that Section 1 Subd. 3 withholds immunity from the victim of theft or burglary unless the victim is in FULL compliance with conditions cited in HF 4300. There is NO situation in which I would NOT immediately report a lost or stolen firearm to local law enforcement. After all, not only do I wish to avoid any criminal or civil liability for any criminal acts committed with the firearm, the bad actor may have stolen the firearm to do me harm.

What HF 601 actually does is create a situation where it's the victim's word against that of the bad actor who stole the firearm, who can and likely would fabricate a narrative to somehow include the victim in the perpetrator's criminal act to lessen his or her own perceived role in minds of authorities.